

relatively recent appreciation of the fact that perforating vessels were capable of sustaining a large variety of flaps.

The first volume gives detailed accounts of flap types, anatomy and physiology and overall provides an excellent account of the basic principles underlying perforator flaps. This volume also includes chapters on planning and complications. The latter of these gives a very clear account of the main 'golden rules' for complication avoidance in this type of surgery. The remainder of this volume is divided into three sections dealing with flaps of the head and neck, upper extremity and trunk.

The first section of the second volume deals with flaps of the lower extremity followed by a good account of the clinical applications of a wide range of perforator flaps for reconstruction in various sites of the body.

The final part of the second volume is, in my view, one of the most interesting sections of the entire book. Entitled 'Controversies and Future Directions', this explores a number of newer concepts, including that of the 'freestyle free flap' (a flap harvested from any region of the body, based on a vessel identified by Doppler), 'supermicrosurgery' (vessels of 0.5–0.8 mm) and neurocutaneous perforator flaps.

The quality of the presentation and illustration is high throughout. As with most multi-author texts there is invariably some overlap in the various chapters, but this is a minor criticism. I have no doubt that this two-volume set would be a significant asset to any individual or department involved in reconstructive surgery and I recommend it highly.

## The Art of Aesthetic Surgery: Principles and Techniques

FOAD NAHAI

<b>EXTENT P/H</b>	2,500 p, hardback
<b>PRICE/ISBN</b>	US\$875.00 1576261778
<b>PUBLISHER</b>	Quality Medical Publishing (Missouri), 2005
<b>REVIEWER</b>	Chris Khoo
<b>STAR RATING</b>	*****

Foad Nahai qualified in medicine at Bristol and completed his surgical training in Baltimore and Atlanta. His career progressed through assistant and associate professorships in plastic surgery and to a full chair in 1991. An incisive thinker, he published with Stephen Mathes in 1982 what immediately became the standard classification of the vascular anatomy of muscle. He has co-authored seven books, encompassing reconstructive surgery, breast cancer, muscle flaps and endoscopic surgery. His breadth of experience has been focused for most of the last decade on aesthetic surgery and this three-volume text is the result.

The author's academic background is apparent in the

way that the information is organised. The entire field is systematically presented but the general and wide-ranging knowledge is made intensely practical. The scientific basis of each specialised topic is developed through chapters on clinical decision-making, challenges to practice and even advice on dealing with colleagues who present themselves for cosmetic surgery, some with the expectation that their surgery will be free! There is advice on the law in the US and on how to manage a practice. The author has himself written a third of the 65 chapters and the book brings together 73 contributors with special expertise in their invited topics. The text is lavishly illustrated with colour drawings and photographs, and five DVDs are packaged in.

Individual topics are exhaustively covered, with 11 chapters on face-lift procedures alone. The logical approach applied to each subject is helpful, working through patient education and assessment, pertinent anatomy, pre-operative planning, operative technique, postoperative care, avoidance of complications and the evaluation of results. 'Clinical caveats' are distilled from experience and are presented as bullet points. Chapters conclude with an annotated bibliography where references are presented with a brief critique and further suggested readings covering the literature.

This is a complete work. Operative and non-operative cosmetic treatments are all dealt with and information is presented both critically and within context. The author's depth of knowledge is complemented by sagacity: 'In my experience, surgical judgement is the critical element that separates a good aesthetic result from a great one'. Dr Nahai has succeeded brilliantly in his aim of creating a comprehensive work that is 'aesthetically appealing, clinically relevant and user-friendly'. It will be the most valuable reference for all aesthetic surgeons and may well become the single most useful source for surgeons of any level of experience. This book should be on the shelf of every surgeon involved in this exacting field.

## 100 Medical Emergencies for Finals

PRASANNA SOORIAKUMARAN, CHANNA JAYASENA,  
ANJLA SHARMAN

<b>EXTENT P/H</b>	288p, paperback
<b>PRICE/ISBN</b>	£21.95 1857757475
<b>PUBLISHER</b>	Radcliffe (Oxford), 2006
<b>REVIEWER</b>	Zarina Shaikh
<b>STAR RATING</b>	***

The quest of all discerning final-year medical students is to make some clinical sense of the volumes of facts that they have methodically memorised over the preceding years of study. This book has been written with this aim in mind. Its objective is to fill in 'the gaps in the learner's knowledge